

your oaths. You will listen to the voice of a Princess who was<sup>1</sup> consigned to your good faith, and whose highest pride consists in being a Frenchwoman, and in being united to the destiny of the sovereign whom you have freely chosen. My son was less sure of your affections in the time of our prosperity; his rights and his person are under your safeguard.

(By order) MONTALIVET. (Signed) MARIA  
LOUISA.  
BLOIS, 3cZ April, 1814.

It is to be inferred that the Regency had within three days adopted the resolution of not quitting Blois, for the above document presents no blanks, nor words filled up in writing. The Empress's proclamation, though a powerful appeal to the feelings of the French people, produced no\* effect. Maria Louisa's proclamation was dated the 4th of April, on the evening of which day Napoleon signed the conditional abdication, with the fate of which the reader has already been made acquainted. M. de Montalivet transmitted the Empress's proclamation, accompanied by another circular, to the prefects, of whom very few received it.

M. de Champagny, having left Blois with the letter he had received from the Empress, proceeded to the headquarters of the Emperor of Austria, carefully avoiding those roads which were occupied by Cossack troops, he arrived, not without considerable difficulty, at Chumseaux, where Francis II. was expected. When the Emperor arrived the Due\*\* de Oadore was announced, and immediately introduced to his Majesty. The Duke remained some hours with Francis II., without being able to obtain from him anything but fair protestations. The Emperor always took refuge behind the promise he had given to his Allies to approve whatever measures they might adopt.

The Duke was not to leave the Emperor's headquarters that evening, and, in the hope that his Majesty might yet reflect on the critical situation of his daughter, he jinked permission

<sup>1</sup> I was informed that when the document was printed and printed to the Emperor she drew her pen through the word "r\*ir" and multi\* the sentence read as follows: "You will listen to the voice of a Princess who *has con-sit/ned herself* to your good faith/\* etc\*.. The unfortunate Princess did all she could to rally to her cause, and above all to the CUUHO of her HOI, those whose resolutions were still wavering, and the truth in that, personally, Maria Louisa inspired real interest even in tho«» who, from {K>ncy or regard for France, were most actively laboring to overthrow the Imperial despotism. — JBourricne,